



## ZHPP COVID-19 Policy Q&A

### Masks

**Q: Does my child need a mask at drop off?**

A: Children 3 and up are required to wear masks at drop off. We also request that you have 2 extra masks packed in a clean Ziplock bag. Please see ZHPP COVID-19 policy on [Parent Portal](#) for exceptions (special needs, activities, age adjustment period, etc.). Masks are also required indoors for adults and children 3 and up.

**Q: Will my child get a break from wearing a mask?**

A: Yes. Children may remove their mask when outdoors as a “mask break”. Children also will not be required to wear a mask while eating or resting on the cot. During these times when masks are removed, distance between children will be maximized (i.e., maintain at least 3 feet of distance wherever possible). For more Breaks from Mask Wearing policies please check the ZHPP COVID-19 Policies document on [Parent Portal](#).

**Q: My child is resistant to the mask, what should I do?**

A: Staff will work with children who have difficulty complying with the mask requirement. It will be done in an age-appropriate and child-friendly manner.

**Q: I do not think my child should wear a mask. What should I do?**

A: If a parent refuses to have their child wear a face mask, continued enrollment at ZHPP will not be permitted (as with all licensed programs throughout the state).

### Travel

**Q. If we travel within the New England/New York/New Jersey area by car, do I have to quarantine my child?**

A: No. ZHPP does not require any testing or quarantine prior to returning to school from

travel within the New England/New York/New Jersey area. Please note, however, that other COVID-19 policies still apply and safety measures like testing and quarantining might still be required (e.g., after travel by plane).

**Q: If we traveled outside the New England/New York/New Jersey area for over 24 hours, do I have to quarantine my child?**

A: Yes. Before your child can return to school, s/he must:

- 1) Take a PCR test 3-5 days after travel, provide proof of its negative result, and quarantine for 7 days; OR
- 2) If a test is not administered, self-quarantine for a full 10 days.

Please notify the Director of any travel plans so that return to school dates may be discussed. This policy applies for all domestic and international travel.

## **Exposure to COVID-19**

**Q: How will families be notified if there is an exposure to COVID-19 at Zion's Hill Preschool?**

A: We will contact the impacted classes and families immediately via email and instruct as to next steps. This may include a temporary classroom closure, self-quarantine of all "close contacts", or self-monitoring for symptoms. Once classes directly impacted have been informed, we will then send an email to the entire school community to notify families of the exposure. While specific details will not be shared, impacted classrooms will be disclosed. If the exposure is disclosed to us late in the evening, a text alert will be sent, instructing families to check email for an important notification. We strive to provide this information as quickly as possible and appreciate your understanding that it does take some time to assess the facts and circumstances surrounding each exposure. In all instances, however, information will be communicated before the start of the next school day. It will come from the COVID-19 Committee.

**Q: My child has been identified as a "close contact". When can she return to school?**

A: Students considered a "close contact" of a confirmed individual must self-quarantine and may return to ZHPP after 10 days if symptom-free, providing a negative PCR test (administered 5 days after the last exposure). Please provide the date of both the test and receipt of the result. (If the test result is positive, please refer to ZHPP COVID-19 Policies on [Parent Portal](#)).

**Q. My child has a household member who has been identified as a "close contact". Does he/she need to self-quarantine or test for COVID-19?**

A: If a student at ZHPP has a household member that has been deemed a "close contact" (e.g., sibling, caregiver/babysitter), the ZHPP Director must be notified. To reduce potential exposure within ZHPP, any students considered a household member of a "close contact" must be closely monitored for symptoms of COVID-19 and may not return to school until the "close contact" tests negative at least five days after the last exposure.

**Q: My child has tested positive for COVID-19. When can s/he return to school and what documentation should I provide?**

A: Following completion of the instructed isolation period, we will need confirmation that the s/he is no longer infectious or symptomatic. Therefore, we require clearance from a physician stating that s/he may safely participate in our program. This also applies to staff members.

**Q: My child was tested for COVID-19. Should ZHPP be notified prior to receiving test results?**

A: We kindly ask that if any individual of the ZHPP community is tested for COVID- 19, for any reason, that the Director be alerted such that we can assess any potential risk.

**Staff**

**Q: Is the staff at ZHPP fully vaccinated?**

Yes. In the spring of 2021 ZHPP launched an effort to ensure that all the staff members utilized the available vaccines allotted for childcare providers in the area. Currently all of our staff members are vaccinated, as required per Executive Order 13D issued by the Office of Early Childhood. The Order requires vaccines for state employees, pre-K – 12 school employees and child care staff including those who work in Office of Early Childhood (OEC) licensed child care centers, group child care homes, family child care homes, and licensed youth camps that operate during the school year. ZHPP will ensure that all future hired staff will provide proof of vaccination.

**Q: Will the staff be required to test if they become “close contacts”?**

A: Even though our staff is fully vaccinated, staff members who will become considered a “close contact” will need to produce a negative PCR test result (administered at least 5 days after the last exposure) in order to return to ZHPP, as the COVID-19 policy requires. If the staff member tests positive, she will have to go through the quarantine process as required per COVID-19 policies.

**Privacy and Other Info**

**Q: Is my child's test result, or general health information, shared with any individuals or institutions?**

A: Student, family and staff privacy is respected and safeguarded at all times, including COVID-19 test results and health records. COVID-19 data is used solely for contact tracing purposes, and to ensure compliance with local and state health requirements. Any individual that tests positive for COVID-19 is required to contact their local health department. ZHPP is similarly required to contact the Wilton Health Department, and as part of tracing efforts provides the names and phone numbers of any individuals considered a "close contact". We are also required to notify the Connecticut Department of Health, and provide general information (date of exposure, whether student or staff, etc.), but personal details or identity is not disclosed to the state.

**Q: Where can I have my child tested?**

A: We recommend that you consult with your pediatrician, as testing sites are ever-changing. The State maintains a database of testing sites, searchable by zip code. Please see "Find a Testing Site Near You" at <https://portal.ct.gov/Coronavirus>. As a reminder, ZHPP requires a PCR test.

**Q: Is it important for me to fill out Tadpoles Health Screening Questionnaire every morning?**

A: Yes. In order to expedite the drop off process we ask that you fill out Tadpoles Health Screening Questionnaire every day by 8:45AM. This will make the process smoother and easier for both children and teachers. If the daily health screen through Tadpoles has not been completed, we will also ask for confirmation that the child, or anyone in the immediate household, does not have a fever, shortness of breath, or cough. If a staff member or child does not pass the initial health screening, s/he will not be permitted to be at school that day, and consultation with a physician should be made.

**Q: What can we do to help ZHPP remain open?**

A: At ZHPP, we pride ourselves on providing a nurturing environment for not only our children, but our families too. Our Board of Directors and administration strive to cultivate a culture of transparency and trust, and COVID-19 is no exception. Please continue to be open and forthcoming in terms of possible exposure, illness, and testing. Please be safe, sensible, and responsible and heed the advice of [Wilton's First Selectwoman](#): "So, what can you do to help reduce the community spread and the number of students and staff in quarantine? Avoid, stop or reduce behavior that is fueling the spread. Instead, behave as if you have the virus and those around you do as well."

Updated on 9/23/2021

